

SUMMER 2019

POINTS WEST

BUFFALO BILL CENTER OF THE WEST


Cody
FIREARMS
MUSEUM
Sneak Peek
.....ISSUE.....





Points WEST

BY PETER SEIBERT
Executive Director and CEO

As I write this column, the reverberating sounds of construction are fading away inside the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. The heavy work on the Cody Firearms Museum (CFM) “reload” is now finished, and the intricate work of reinstalling each of the weapons and other objects has begun. It has been a complex task, and I tip my cowboy hat to the staff teams who have been working on this project so diligently. It does take a village to put together such a major undertaking!

Through the years, I have been part of exhibition teams who have mounted dozens of unique museum installations. Of all those projects, those involving firearms are clearly the most complicated. Why? Our typical visitors want to see firearms in a way that helps them understand the themes of the installation; the history of the owner or the technology that brought a firearm forward are so central. At the same time, however, the “hardcore collector” wants to view items down to the very smallest detail. Both groups are important, and so the key is being able to meet the expectations of each—an effort our staff have worked so hard to ensure.

In our post, post, post (even scholars disagree on how many posts to include here) modern world, how you shed light on the history and importance of firearms is complex. As in all exhibitions, our curators strive for historically accurate content that reflects all sides of interpretive themes. Such an approach means checking our own biases at the door and working hard to remain as objective as possible. Simply put, as historians, we do not pass judgement on the past.

While this may sound easy, it is anything but. For historical topics grounded in the distant past, our challenge is understanding motivations in a world that is so far removed from the present. As I have often described to students, we look into the past only with the help of a badly fogged telescope. Without historical data, the images we see are blurry. ■

(continued on page 34)

About the cover:



1914
Winchester
poster. Gift
of Olin
Corporation,
Winchester
Collection.
1988.8.2919
(detail)

**Enjoy reading
all the stories
about
#CFMReload!**

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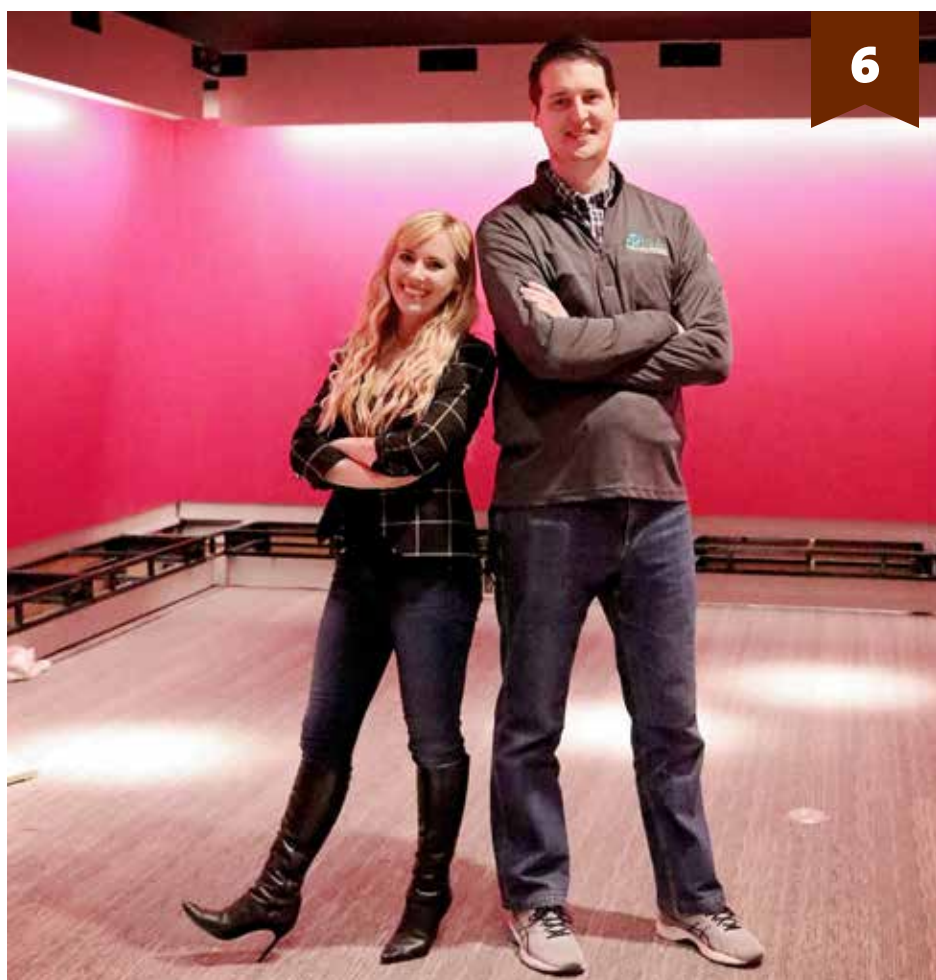
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Points West is published three times a year for patrons and friends of the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. For more information, contact the editor at the address above.

The Buffalo Bill Center of the West is a private, non-profit, educational institution dedicated to preserving and interpreting the natural and cultural history of the American West. Founded in 1917, its collections include: Buffalo Bill and the West he lived and loved, historic photographs and documents, firearms, natural science of the Greater Yellowstone region, Plains Indians, and masterworks of western art.

The mission of *Points West* is to deliver an engaging, educational magazine primarily to our members and friends. *Points West* uses a multi-disciplinary strategy to connect the reader to the nature and culture of the American West, and the Buffalo Bill Center of the West in particular, through exceptional images and appealing, reader-friendly stories.

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The Cody Firearms Museum reloads

The much-anticipated re-opening of the Cody Firearms Museum is within our sights! Ashley Hlebnsky, the Robert W. Woodruff Curator of the Cody Firearms Museum, and Assistant Curator Danny Michael take readers on a tour of the new space as it readies for installation.

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VISIT US ONLINE | Stay in touch with all that's happening at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West; visit centerofthewest.org.

Points West is the magazine of the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Cody, Wyoming.



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Long-awaited **CFM RELOAD** **IS WITHIN OUR SIGHTS**

.....
Cody Firearms Museum Grand Opening: July 6, 3 – 6 p.m.



**BY ASHLEY HLEBINSKY, *the Robert W. Woodruff Curator,
Cody Firearms Museum***

Welcome to the #NewCFM!

The Cody Firearms Museum (CFM) staff, advisory board, and donors are excited to show the public the renovated museum. This project has been a long time in the making. Construction began on the museum last summer, but the planning, designing, fundraising, and organizing have been underway for many years. (Check out the CFM history starting on page twelve.)

As you walk into the hallway leading to the Cody Firearms Museum, a large graphic panel welcomes you and reads:

The Cody Firearms Museum interprets over 800 years of history with more than 10,000 objects in 40,000 square feet. This museum invites you to learn about the many ways people have used firearms throughout history in times of both war and peace. Please use what you see here as a foundation to spark your own research and further discussion beyond these walls.

Thousands of visitors come through the CFM annually. They range from gun enthusiasts and collectors to people who know very little about firearms. As a result, the new CFM seeks to engage with all visitors. For novices, the CFM discusses firearms history, teaches safety, allows them to experience “hands-on history,” and learn not



CODY FIREARMS MUSEUM

only about technology, but also how cultures and societies have changed because of firearms.

The museum's main level combines traditional firearms display with conversations about the people associated with firearms history from early monarchs to modern athletes. The CFM main level is divided into the following galleries: introduction to firearms, modern shooting sports, evolution of the firearm, military history, firearms of the west, science of firearms, art of firearms, and a rotating exhibit space. It also features four firearms simulators including a pistol steel challenge, as well as a Browning M2 machine gun, a long-range rifle, and a shotgun. Additionally, throughout the galleries, visitors can find several series of mechanical and media-interactives and video to supplement the exhibit.

The CFM's lower level is dedicated to those with a collector or research level of interest. At the base of the spiral staircase is an exhibit on early patents and prototypes which leads into a gun library with more than two thousand firearms and in excess of ten thousand rounds of ammunition. A video about the art of collecting plays in the space next to a firearms research room, a space available by appointment only to outside researchers and our staff to examine and photograph firearms and archival materials from the collection.

Our goal for the reimagined Cody Firearms Museum is to factually share and interpret the collection and its stories in light of the way the guns were used—whether for good, for ill, or simply indifferent. In so doing, we strive to become the authority on the public education and history of firearms as well as the location for academic firearms research and scholarship into the future.

Take a preview tour of the space beginning on page six, and then make plans to see it “up close and personal.” We look forward to seeing you this summer!



the **CFM RELOADS**

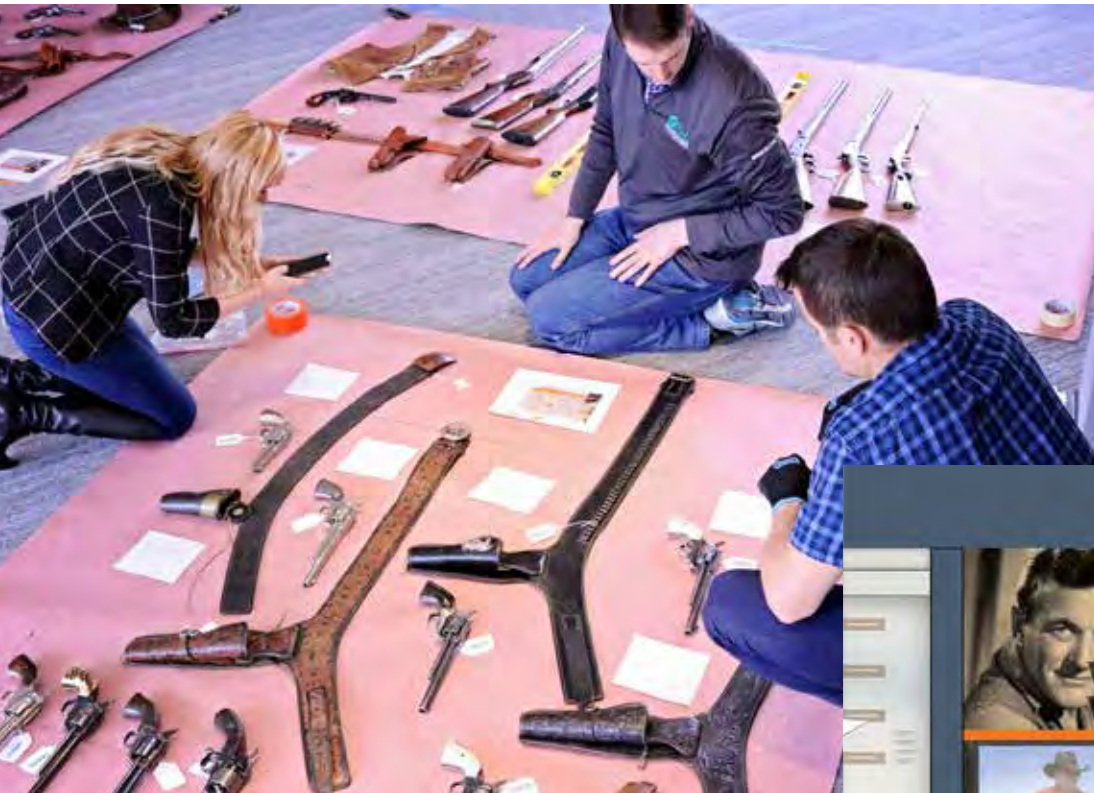
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GRAND OPENING JULY 6

Ashley Hlebinsky, the Robert W. Woodruff Curator of the Cody Firearms Museum, and Assistant Curator Danny Michael share the progress on the #NewCFM and invite you for a visit!

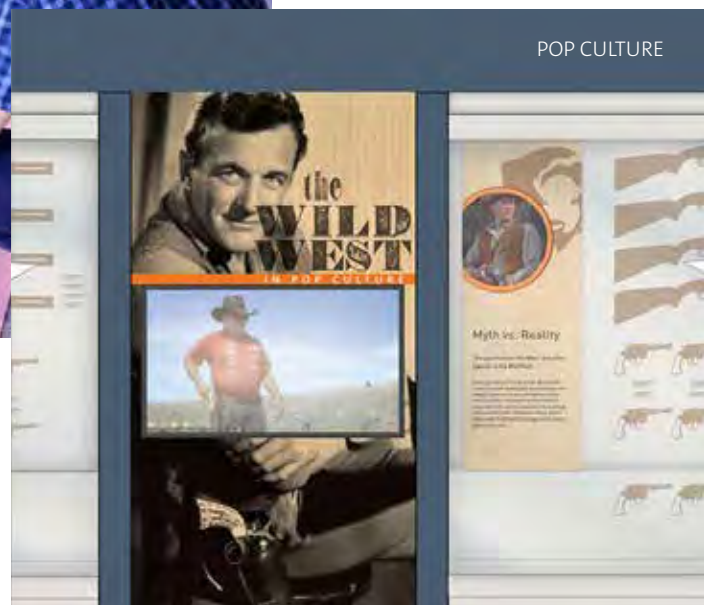


COLLECTION + STORIES



A distinctly American genre, Hollywood is always happy to produce a good western for TV or movie—stories that often affect how we view the American West. Here Ashley and Danny help to decide how to display CFM's firearms unique to such classic western icons as the Cartwrights of *Bonanza* and *Have Gun Will Travel*'s Paladin.

GETTING STARTED



POP CULTURE

The Exhibition Crew shines acres of glass in the #NewCFM. The cases are larger to accommodate more firearms and with more glass to create better viewing for our visitors.



ORIENTATION AREA



ILLUSION OF MORE SPACE

As of this writing, the #NewCFM has almost all the finishing touches in place (paint, carpet, cases, and a new stairway) and is now ready to add the firearms and other collections objects. The Exhibition Crew and CFM Staff plan a “soft opening” on June 1 with the Grand Opening to follow on July 6.



LOOK FOR OLD FAVORITES...

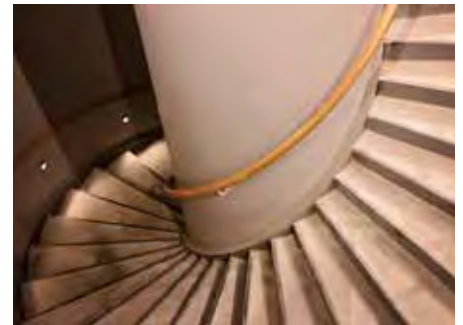


CFM Curator Ashley Hlebinsky ably “supports” the Winchester Repeating Arms Co. factory lintel (above), and Curator Ashley and Assistant CFM Curator Danny Michael stand in front of the factory and the log cabin in the background from the last CFM iteration.



The "pink room" is sure to highlight the nuances in the artistry of embellished and engraved firearms.

...AND EXCITING NEW DISPLAYS



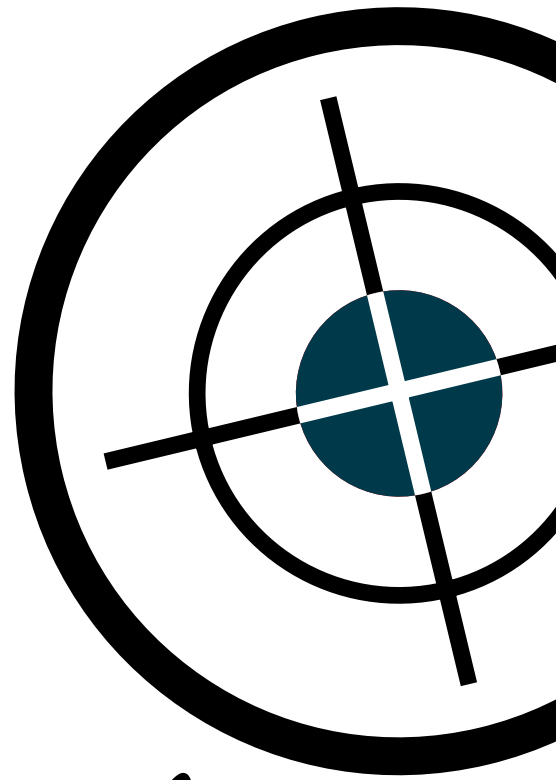
THE OPENING IS IN OUR SIGHTS!

We're so thankful to our donors, designers, contractors, advisory board, trustees, fellow colleagues, volunteers, an untold number of patrons and supporters, and of course, our families and friends! Without you, there would be no #NewCFM—we can't wait to show it to you!





CODY FIREARMS MUSEUM



On target, then and now

Center newsletters tell the CFM story

EDITED BY MARGUERITE HOUSE

Unless noted otherwise, all images are from the Buffalo Bill Center of the West's MS 020 Winchester Repeating Arms Company Collection.

I wish I could thank personally all the people who have come forward to help us so generously in supporting this new museum. Certainly, millions of visitors in the decades ahead will gain a greater appreciation for the rich artistic and historical heritage of firearms in America.

And so, with these words in the spring of 1990, Mrs. Henry H.R. "Peg" Coe, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, expressed delight in "concluding this large fund drive in just two and one-half years." The then Buffalo Bill Historical Center had just wrapped up a \$7.3 million capital campaign to build an addition to the facility—its new Cody Firearms Museum.

The Center's quarterly newsletter that spring summarized the campaign with nods to volunteers and donors. The nationwide



Buffalo Bill's grandson Fred W. Garlow (center) pays a visit to the Winchester Arms Museum in New Haven, Connecticut, while traveling on behalf of the Center in 1968 to appear on the *Today Show* in New York City. He shares his grandfather's Winchester 1873 rifle with Jack R. Peat, vice president of marketing for the Olin Corporation's Winchester-Western Division (left) and Tom Hall, museum curator. P.20.2618

fundraising efforts netted contributions from a host of donors including the Robert Woodruff Foundation of Atlanta; the estate of the former board chairman Ernest J. Goppert Sr.; William Ruger, Chairman of Sturm, Ruger & Co., Inc.; the National Endowment for the Humanities; the Kresge Foundation of Troy, Michigan; Val Browning;

and the Boone and Crockett Club.

Peter Hassrick, the Center's Executive Director at the time [who currently serves as Director Emeritus], echoed Coe's sentiments, saying, "It is rare when an institution has the opportunity to create a new world-class facility. I anticipate that the interest and enthusiasm generated because of the new Cody Firearms Museum will bring greater numbers of visitors to Cody and Park County in the years ahead."

Aiming high at New York's 21 Club

As construction was well underway for a June 22, 1991, opening of the firearms museum, Coe and Jim Minter, campaign chairman, took a stroll through the partially completed structure. In the spring 1991 Center newsletter, the two swapped stories about the early days in Cody and how the idea of a new Buffalo Bill Museum in the 1960s would lay the groundwork for the Cody Firearms Museum of the 1990s.

To generate interest in the new Buffalo Bill Museum, Dr. Harold McCracken, director of the Whitney Gallery of Western Art [today's Whitney Western Art Museum], and Minter had an idea to have Fred Garlow, Buffalo Bill's grandson, appear on the *Today Show* hosted by Hugh Downs. McCracken

called Peter Kriendler, Center trustee and owner of the famous 21 Club in New York, to help arrange it.

Arriving at the studio of the *Today Show*, Garlow, dressed in full Buffalo Bill regalia, engaged the audience with his portrayal of Buffalo Bill so completely that the television program *To Tell the Truth* followed up with an invitation of its own: Will the real grandson of Buffalo Bill please stand up?

Kriendler planned a luncheon at the 21 Club for the following day with Garlow and Minter in attendance, advising them that he'd invited a Winchester representative, James Rikhoff, the firm's public relations director who attended on behalf of the Olin Corporation.

"I was pleased to meet the best firearms manufacturer in America and believed it was pretty lucky, maybe even an omen, as Freddy and I were carrying Buffalo Bill's Winchester Model 1873 all around New York!" Minter exclaimed. "It never occurred to me that...Cody would be the home of the world's largest firearm museum because of the Olin Winchester Collection."

“Freddy and I were carrying Buffalo Bill's Winchester all around New York

"Never one to mince words, Peter asked Rikhoff if John Olin would be interested in contributing to the Historical Center as we were planning to build a new wing [i.e. Buffalo Bill Museum], and it was challenging trying to raise the funds," Coe added.



Attending the July 4, 1976, opening of the Center's then Winchester Arms Museum are (L – R) Wyoming Governor Stan Hathaway, Trustee Chair Margaret "Peg" Coe, and Executive Director Peter Hassrick. P.20.4649



Jim Minter and Peg Coe.

"Rikhoff explained that Mr. Olin was 'hit up' all the time, but he would try to think of something.

"That 'something' turned out to be the Winchester commemorative rifle that, with royalties of \$5 per gun, raised in excess of \$600,000 for the new construction. More than 120,000 firearms at \$129 each were sold!" Coe continued. "The Winchester Group of Olin Corporation also produced three hundred specially engraved models for the Historical Center, given as a premium to each person who donated at least \$1000."

Minter called it "a marriage" of sorts and noted that since so many of the "old-time" Winchester executives were hunters, they started coming to Cody.

The Historical Center's new Buffalo Bill Museum was dedicated in 1968. "It came off with a bang, but we worried every day a horse would be killed on the highway or worse," Minter said. "George Nichols, who orchestrated special projects for Winchester, helped stage the opening, and a lot of Olin people attended along with such celebrities as Slim Pickens, Glenn Ford, Frank Ferguson, Robert Fuller, General James H. Doolittle and, of course, local folks."

Winchester Collection triggers Cody Firearms Museum discussion

The Historical Center received the massive Winchester Collection in 1976 as a loan from the Olin Corporation, and actor John Wayne and thousands of well-wishers poured into Cody that July 4th to celebrate the collection—and of course, the nation's bicentennial.

"The Winchester Group of Olin Corporation added to the trust they displayed in lending the collection by presenting the museum with three newly commissioned John Clymer paintings: *The*

Homesteaders, *The Cattle Drive*, and *Gold Train*," Coe noted. "A.H. 'Rocky' Rohlfsing was vice president of the Winchester Group, and he had a lot to do with the Center getting those paintings."

The Center originally displayed the Winchester Arms Museum within the Buffalo Bill Museum, and then later, on the lower level in today's Anne & Charles Duncan Special Exhibition Gallery. By 1987, trustees launched talks about constructing a new facility for the firearms collection and what it should be called. William Ruger called for agreement to change the name from the Winchester Museum to the Cody Firearms Museum, "which would better encompass the diverse collection." Olin Corporation concurred, and Ruger then inaugurated the campaign by pledging a million dollars.

In December 1988, the Olin Corporation officially donated the collection to the Center.



Fred Garlow with a cutout of his grandfather, Buffalo Bill, March 3, 1965. MS089 Jack Richard Photograph Collection. PN.89.39.8484.3

Firearms collection shoots toward new home

The culmination of more than five years of planning, the Cody Firearms Museum opened the most significant collection of American arms in the world on June 22, 1991. The new space contained more than five thousand historically and artistically significant American and European projectile arms that chronicled the development of firearms through four centuries.

“Focus encompassed far more than firearms



Peg Coe and Jim Minter at a spring 1976 reception with Winchester executives at New York's 21 Club. Left: Peg Coe examines Winchester's 1976 Bicentennial Commemorative rifle with U.S. Senator-Wyoming Gale McGee (left), Wyoming Governor Ed Herschler, and an unidentified Winchester representative (right). Right: Jim Minter (center) visits with trustee Charles Duncan (left) and 21 Club owner, Peter Kriendler. P.20.2671 (left) and PN.20.2683

The heart of the new wing was the Winchester Collection, but the museum also featured significant and uncommon examples of arms produced by firms as diverse as Ithaca and Fabrique Nationale, and artifacts ranging from Renaissance handcrafts to IMI's (Israel Military Industries) Uzi.



Winchester Model 94 U.S.A. Bicentennial Commemorative rifle, .30-30, serial #01976. Presented to the Buffalo Bill Center of the West on July 4, 1976, upon the opening of the Winchester Arms Museum. 1988.8.657

But the museum's focus encompassed far more than firearms. Other products manufactured by the arms producers include flashlights, sewing machines, and bandsaws. These pieces were also represented in significant numbers in the museum, as were the engineering drawings (30,000 in all) and specification sheets which formed the basis for their production.

The Center's summer 1991 newsletter highlighted the new 45,000-square-foot firearms museum, saying that it was "arranged creatively to enlighten and entertain visitors with a variety of interests including the general public, the lover of decorative arts, the student of history and technology, and the serious collector."

The various galleries and exhibits were highlighted and included the following:

Coors Video Theater, Robert W. Woodruff Gallery, Colonial Gun Shop, Stage Coach Stop, Boone and Crockett Club Hunting Lodge, General James Doolittle exhibit, Arms Factory, Hardware Store, Browning Gallery of Highly Embellished Firearms, John and Spencer Olin Gallery, William B. Ruger Galleries, and the Study Gallery on the lower level.

Finally, behind the Arms Factory, visitors passed through an arch over which hung the originally inscribed, two-ton lintel from the Winchester Repeating Arms Company factory in New Haven, Connecticut.

Approved for launch

"The June dedication of the new CFM wing served as far more than the consecration of a building: It symbolized and signaled the coming of age of an institution, its operational philosophy, and its accompanying services to the public—in all their aspects," the post CFM-opening, fall 1991 issue of the Center's newsletter reported.

Much of the museum's design development—undertaken in conjunction with the renowned New York museum design firm of Vincent



Crowds gather to view the Winchester Collection, July 4, 1976, Cody, Wyoming. P.20.4643



THE WINCHESTER GALLERY



Pictured at the entrance to the Winchester Gallery, July 4, 1976, are (L – R) John Henske, CEO, Olin Corporation; Dick Pelton, Winchester Vice President of Marketing; Phil Richey, Winchester President; William Talley, Center Trustee and retired Winchester executive; and Curt Gowdy, Center Trustee and ABC Sports caster. P.20.4653

Ciulla and Associates—focused on exhibit presentation which would appeal to the broadest possible audience. The CFM's 23,000 square feet of exhibit space was conceptually structured like a menu, offering varying fare to match the different tastes of our extraordinarily diverse, museum-going public.

More than the consecration of a building

In August 1991, the Open Storage area (later tagged “Study Gallery”) opened to present the kind of encyclopedic presentation of collections which typified most exhibits in the previous Winchester Arms Museum, and which should well-please our specialized collector constituency.

In fact, the guiding notion that varied approaches in CFM exhibits and service should educate and entertain the broadest possible constituency was very much a



This granite lintel, now here in the Cody Firearms Museum of the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, hung over the entrance to the Winchester Repeating Arms factory in New Haven, Connecticut. Chiseled from an eight-inch thick solid slab of granite, the rock itself weighs more than two tons. It is the largest artifact in the firearms section of the Buffalo Bill Center of the West.

reflection of national philosophical trends in museums at the time. One month before the dedication of the CFM, the national organization of the museum profession, the American Association of Museums (AAM, now the American Alliance of Museums) adopted a new revision of its benchmark Code of Ethics. The underlying philosophy of this document was a rededication to serving all audiences.

This summer, as the Cody Firearms Museum reopens with a brand-new layout, it builds on foundations laid by a wealth of staff, volunteers, board members, patrons, and donors, all committed to educating and entertaining “the broadest possible constituency.” Today’s CFM remains dedicated to the very same legacy.



Marguerite House, Points West editor, excerpted this story from four issues of the then Buffalo Bill Historical Center newsletter, dated spring 1990, spring 1991, summer 1991, and fall 1991.

FAVORITE FIREARMS

A number of firearms experts, scholars, enthusiasts, and Buffalo Bill Center of the West staffers are more than a little familiar with the Center's Cody Firearms Museum's (CFM) vast collection. Below, several weigh in on their "Favorite Firearm." (Unless noted otherwise, all firearms are from the original Winchester Collection, a gift of Olin Corporation, Winchester Arms Collection, 1988.)



Danny Michael, CFM Assistant Curator | BURTON MACHINE RIFLE, 1988.8.104

"I love this piece," says CFM Assistant Curator Danny Michael. "It is a 102-(ish)-year-old piece that looks like it's still from the future, and we hardly know anything about it."

Michael notes that Frank Burton was one of Winchester's engineers, and this gun is attributed to him circa 1916. At a time when every major power used a bolt-action rifle, this gun used an intermediate cartridge and twin, detachable magazines. "Light cartridges and detachable magazines didn't become the norm in the military until the 1960s," Michael adds. "But we don't know why Burton made it, if it was ever tested, or much of anything else. We do know it exists and has been featured in a video game; the documentation just

hasn't turned up in the past hundred years."

As assistant curator, Michael handles visitor inquiries and oversees CFM-related social media content—all the while researching and writing about the museum's collection. In 2016, he earned a master's degree in public history from the University of Louisville after receiving a bachelor's degree in history from Cedarville University in Ohio. His scholastic work centered in American military history. Before joining the CFM staff, Michael worked at the Frazier History Museum in Louisville, Kentucky, and had previously worked with firearms records at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives National Firearms Tracing Center in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Winchester light machine gun, ca. 1919, .345 cal. A sample gun used only for government testing in Springfield, Massachusetts. Designed by F.F. Burton in 1917 – 1918. None were ever manufactured. 1988.8.104





Ornamental blunderbuss, ca. 1760. Tula Arsenal, Russia. Originally presented to Louis XV of France by Catherine the Great. Inlaid with a silver portrait bust of Louis XV forward of the breech. Museum purchase. Partially funded by the James H. Woods Foundation. 1986.16.1

Phil Spangenberg, *Firearms Editor, True West magazine* | **BUFFALO BILL'S 1873 WINCHESTER, 1.69.372**

"Just knowing its history, the gun that sparks my western soul is Colonel Cody's personal, engraved and gilt finished, pistol-gripped, 1873 Winchester rifle that he carried in many of his shows," writes Phil Spangenberg, Firearms Editor for *True West* magazine. "Having performed worldwide in many Wild West Shows myself, just looking at that old Winchester conjures up visions of the Colonel sitting tall in the saddle, waiting backstage to gallop into the arena as the announcer says, 'And now ladies and gentlemen... Buffalo Bill!'"

Along with his work at *True West*, Spangenberg was Black Powder Editor at *Guns & Ammo* magazine for decades. He's written hundreds of articles on firearms with a special focus on guns and gear of the American frontier. He appears frequently on the History Channel, American Heroes Channel, Discovery, and other cable documentaries, and has performed in Wild West shows worldwide, even producing his own shows throughout the U.S.

Spangenberg has served as gun coach to numerous Hollywood stars including Charlton Heston, Mel Gibson, Will Smith, Ed Harris, Milla Jovovich, Tom Berenger, Rob Lowe, and others, as well as technical advisor and character actor in films like *Hidalgo*, *Wild Wild West*, and the DVD *Vengeance Trail*.



William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody's Winchester Model 1873 rifle, .44 ca. Buffalo Bill Museum Collection. 1.69.372



Frances B. Clymer, *Director, Park County Library System* | **BLUNDERBUSS, 1986.16.1**

"This blunderbuss appeals to me because of its association with two of the great dynasties of eighteenth-century Europe: Louis the XV of France and Catherine the Great of Russia," states Frances B. Clymer, Director of the Park County Library System in northwest Wyoming. "Both were important figures in their respective courts. They both loved beautiful things and enjoyed giving and receiving gifts, although I do not know the occasion for the gift of this blunderbuss. When I worked at the Center of

the West in the firearms museum, I preferred the artistry of embellished arms over the technical intricacies of more modern weapons."

Clymer has served as director of the Park County Library System in Cody since 2005. Previously, she was a librarian in the Center's McCracken Research Library. Upon first arriving at the Center in the 1980s, she was heavily involved in processing the multitude of firearms and materials of the Winchester Arms Collection.





Dan Brumley, CFM Curatorial Assistant | KENTUCKY LONG RIFLE, 1988.8.1044 (ABOVE)

"The Kentucky Long Rifle was a uniquely American invention," says Dan Brumley, CFM curatorial assistant. "The first firearm designed and made in the Colonies, it addressed issues that were specific to the American frontier. During the American Revolutionary War, General George Washington specifically recruited frontiersmen with Kentucky rifles to help level the battlefield. Without the Kentucky long rifle, the United States of America probably would not exist today—or certainly would not have been born as early as it was. And yes, it is a Kentucky Long Rifle; that argument was settled, honorably, in 1963...but that's another story!"

Since December 2010, Brumley has worked as CFM curatorial assistant. He provides firearms information and/or identification services to those who want to learn more about their gun(s). He is a retired sergeant with more than thirty-three years in law enforcement. During his career, he served as weapons instructor for twenty-four years, department gunsmith/armorer for twenty-one years, and SWAT sniper for nineteen years. Brumley was also part of the adjunct faculty of his local community college for twenty-four years. As a competitive shooter, Brumley has won honors in numerous handgun and rifle contests. He continues to study the history of firearms and the techniques used in their production.

J.P. Beck, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. Kentucky long rifle, ca. 1800, .55 cal. Beck was one of the most renowned makers of Kentucky rifles during the so-called "Golden Age," working between 1785 and 1811. 1988.8.1044



Marguerite House, Editor, Points West COLT TEXAS PATERSON PISTOL, 2015.17.1

"Some of my favorite handguns and long arms in the Cody Firearms Museum are linked to a particular story we created for a Center of the West news release or a piece in *Points West*," writes Marguerite House, *Points West* editor. "Denny Levett's Colt Paterson was just such a story, made all the more special for me because I learned all about it from Mr. Levett himself by way of a long phone call in 2016."

Levett (b. 1938) is a California real estate magnate, financier, and part time actor who owns the prestigious Cypress Inn at Carmel-by-the-Sea, which he owns with actress Doris Day. He is also an avid collector of all things classic: cars, art, posters, books, toys, Hollywood memorabilia, and firearms.

"Mr. Levett was bright, funny, and so knowledgeable. I didn't know that his Paterson-Colt firearms collection is the largest collection in the world," House adds. "I discovered that when this revolver (named for the New Jersey city where Samuel Colt [1814 – 1862] produced the model) was adopted by the Texas Rangers, it basically launched Sam Colt's career, even though in 1842 he'd already gone bankrupt with his first foray into manufacturing. When war with Mexico erupted in 1846, he obtained more financing and began to manufacture a new, more powerful revolver in his Hartford, Connecticut, factory. And, as they say, 'the rest is history.'"

After nineteen years on staff, House recently retired from the Center of the West. She spent the last fourteen years in public relations, a tenure that included editing *Points West*, which she continues to manage.

Colt Texas Paterson No. 5, .36 ca., 1836. One of only two known in existence. Gift of Dennis A. LeVett. 2015.17.1





Ashley Hlebinsky, the Robert W. Woodruff Curator, Cody Firearms Museum
BANK ROBBERY THOMPSON SUBMACHINE GUN, 1988.8.2609 (BELOW)

"This artifact in our museum is one of the few pieces that can be traced to use in a crime," says Ashley Hlebinsky, firearms curator. "This Model 1921 in .45 caliber was used in a bank robbery in New York. According to the story, it jammed, and the perpetrator left it behind. It was recovered by the police and ultimately traded to Winchester for riot guns. It became a part of the Winchester Arms Collection transferred to the Cody Firearms Museum (CFM) in the 1970s."

Hlebinsky finds this gun fascinating because it illustrates the line between the intended use of a firearm versus misuse. "For example, the Thompson was made for the military and ultimately targeted law enforcement agencies," Hlebinsky explains. "However, it's remembered more as a 'Gangster gun' because of its infrequent use in high

profile crimes, such as the 1929 St. Valentine's Day Massacre—an image repeated and sensationalized throughout popular culture in movies and television."

Hlebinsky earned a master's degree in American History and Museum Studies from the University of Delaware, where she studied the perception of firearms in culture. She also spent three years researching in the Smithsonian Institution's National Firearms Collection. As firearms curator, Hlebinsky oversees seven thousand firearms dating back to the 1200s.

Along with serving as project director for the CFM reinstallation, Hlebinsky is president of the Gun Code, LLC, a consulting business through which she serves as a museum advisor, an expert witness on both civil and criminal cases, freelance writer, certified firearms

instructor, international lecturer, on-camera historian, and television producer. She recently founded the first association in the United States to promote the academic study of firearms history and material culture and is currently co-curating an exhibition on European embellished sporting arms for the Houston Museum of Natural Sciences.

Hlebinsky can be seen regularly on the Travel Channel's *Mysteries at the Museum*, Outdoor Channel's *Gun Stories* with Joe Mantegna, and most recently as co-host of the Discovery Channel series *Master of Arms*. In 2017, Hlebinsky was awarded the prestigious Grits Gresham Shooting Sports Communicator Award, awarded annually at the Shooting, Hunting, and Outdoor Trade Show (SHOT Show) in Las Vegas.



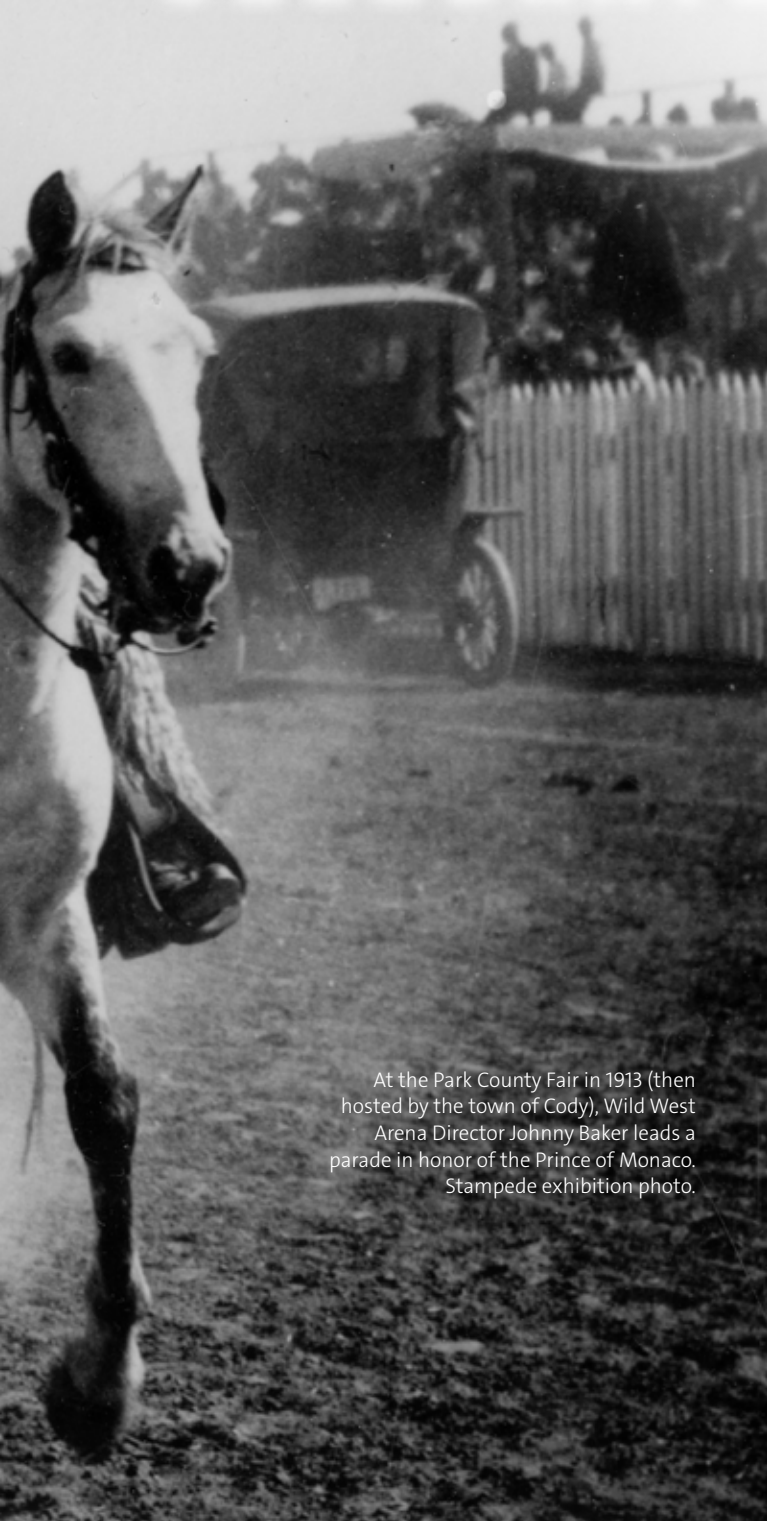
Model 1921 Thompson submachine gun,
 .45 cal. Colt Patent Fire Arms Mfg. Co.,
 Hartford, Connecticut. 1988.8.2609





CODY STAMPEDE

CELEBRATES 100 YEARS



At the Park County Fair in 1913 (then hosted by the town of Cody), Wild West Arena Director Johnny Baker leads a parade in honor of the Prince of Monaco. Stampede exhibition photo.

**JEREMY JOHNSTON, PhD
AND MARY ROBINSON**

For a few days each July, Cody, Wyoming, hosts an internationally renowned celebration of Independence Day with a parade and rodeo—collectively known as the Cody Stampede. On July 1–4, the local community attracts professional rodeo riders and ropers, tourists from around the world, and even Hollywood stars who now and then serve as the Stampede Parade Grand Marshal.

Local businesses sponsor parade floats designed on that year's theme, always honoring the American West. With great fanfare, they proceed down Cody's main street, Sheridan Avenue, accompanied by riding groups, marching bands, and various state political leaders. Then, later in the day, Stampede Park on the West Strip offers a highly competitive rodeo, cementing Cody's title as the "Rodeo Capital of the World."

After a hundred years, this annual celebration remains a seminal event for the town of Cody, and every year, the Stampede reaffirms its historical connections to the legacy of William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody and the lands and peoples of the American West.

BOOTS AND CHAPS AND COWBOY HATS

Like many western communities, early residents of Cody and the surrounding ranches organized informal bucking-horse contests, sometimes out on the prairie within a circle of mounted horsemen for a corral. They brought the wildest of broncs off winter range to challenge their athletic capabilities. Cowboys and cowgirls also competed in races and a variety of specific challenges, such as calf roping and steer wrestling, skills derived from the everyday work of cattle ranching. Often, they merely passed a hat to reward the winners. Residents gathered to enjoy the show, and,



Sterling Crawley of Stephenville, Texas, competing in saddle bronc during the Cody Stampede Rodeo, July 1, 2016. Raymond Hillegas photo courtesy the *Cody Enterprise*.

as demonstrated in an early photo, even watched the fun from the roof of a ranch house.

Buffalo Bill helped develop and promote a community mostly populated by farmers and linked it to the then-emerging global popularity of the American Cowboy. Buffalo Bill's Wild West featured the equestrian skills of a "congress" of diverse riders—including Lakota, vaqueros, and cowgirls—through races, bucking bronco contests, and square dances on horseback. They even coordinated a soccer match with players on horseback attempting to score a

goal at the end of the field! In the process, the Wild West transformed the American Cowboy into a national, working-class hero, a legacy carried forward throughout the remainder of the twentieth century in film and television.

Then in 1913, the town of Cody hosted the Prince of Monaco for the Park County Fair, an event that heralded the future Cody Stampede. Buffalo Bill instructed arena director Johnny Baker to stage a parade of Crow Indians—led by Chief Plenty Coups—accompanied by Wild West performers. The Prince, who had traveled to northwest

Wyoming for a guided big game hunt, viewed the procession from the balcony of the Irma, Buffalo Bill's "original hotel in the Rockies," pleased that he extended his visit "to see more of Park County's frontier celebration" according to the *Park County Enterprise*.

After the parade, local entrepreneur Jacob M. Schwoob drove the prince to the fairgrounds and enjoyed a grand review of Wild West riders led by Baker, followed by horse racing and bucking contests. The *Northern Wyoming Herald* reported on September 19, 1913, "No one except Colonel



Husky Oil Company's float celebrating "Winchester: the gun that won the West," July 4, 1968. MS 089 Jack Richard Photograph Collection. PN.89.49.10081.147 and PN.89.49.10081.150

Cody could have done it, and it would have been impossible for him in any other place in the world except Park County where he had scores of the best riders on the globe from which to select his actors.”

LET ‘ER BUCK!

After Buffalo Bill passed away on January 10, 1917, residents continued to capitalize on his legacy to entice Yellowstone-bound tourists to stay a few days in the small town of Cody. One local booster was Clarence Williams, a former stagecoach driver who delivered visitors from Cody to Yellowstone. He was also an early promoter of allowing motor vehicles into Yellowstone National Park.

In June 1919, Williams organized an “Entrance Day Rodeo” in conjunction with the opening of the Park’s East Entrance to motor vehicles. Young men, lately returned to their rural homes from the trenches of World War I, showed up to compete against talented riders from around the neighboring Big Horn Basin and southern Montana. There were Crow Indian dancers, rodeo clowns, races, and substantial rewards



Hats and shadows, Cody Stampede, 2009. MS 426 Ken Blackbird Collection. P.426.05396

for the winners. The occasion marked the beginning of what we know today as the Cody Stampede.

In 1920, the name changed; the date switched to a July celebration; and a formal organization followed. Western novelist and local resident Caroline Lockhart served as the first director of the Cody Stampede Board, whose membership included Valley (dude) Ranch owner Larry Larom, Clarence Williams, Sidney A. Eldred, Ernest Goppert Sr., and William Loewer.

In addition to various rodeo events and demonstrations of equestrian skills, the community celebrated downtown at “Wolfville,” a dance hall and local watering hole, named in honor of the fictional Arizona town that served as the setting



Larry Redman on “Headlight,” Cody Stampede, ca. 1925. Photo courtesy the Park County Archives. P17-17-307

for Alfred Henry Lewis’s western novels. Acknowledging their debt to the great celebrity, the opening Stampede parade of riders always paused at the Irma Hotel to pay their respects to Buffalo Bill.

STAMPEDE SADDLES UP AS CODY’S SIGNATURE EVENT

Through the decades, the Cody Stampede continued to grow. Dude ranches were established in the hinterlands and promoted a western experience to their guests that included an annual visit to the Stampede. The purse awards for the customary rodeo events grew larger as sponsorships rolled in. To compromise with the neighboring farming community of Powell, Cody eventually became the county seat of Park County in exchange for moving the fairgrounds east to Powell.

Every summer, the town newspaper, the *Cody Enterprise*, and local businesses encouraged residents to don western apparel and pull on their cowboy boots in hosting the annual Cody Stampede. The essential elements of celebrity, rodeo, and the appeal and romance of the cowboy drew crowds and allowed the Stampede to survive the economic challenges of the Great Depression and re-emerge even stronger after a brief hiatus due to World War II.

In 1946, the Cody Stampede was sanctioned as a member of the Rodeo Cowboys Association (which became today’s Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association in 1975). That same year, a new rodeo development with covered grandstands and a capacity for three thousand people opened on the bench above Cody next to the street still known as Stampede Avenue.

Celebrities from Gary Cooper to John Wayne have ridden down Sheridan Avenue as Grand Marshals of the Cody Stampede Parade, as well as other heroes like Chuck Yeager, the first pilot to break the sound barrier. Rodeo legends such as Nick Knight, Mel Stonehouse, and “Cody” Bill Smith competed for prizes within the arena of the rodeo grounds—which moved to the west end of town in 1975. Moreover, every year residents continue to celebrate the Fourth of July with music and dancing.

The small town that emerged in the late 1890s, named in honor of Buffalo Bill, lives up to its claim to be the “Rodeo Capital of the World” and looks forward to another hundred years of the world famous Cody Stampede. ■

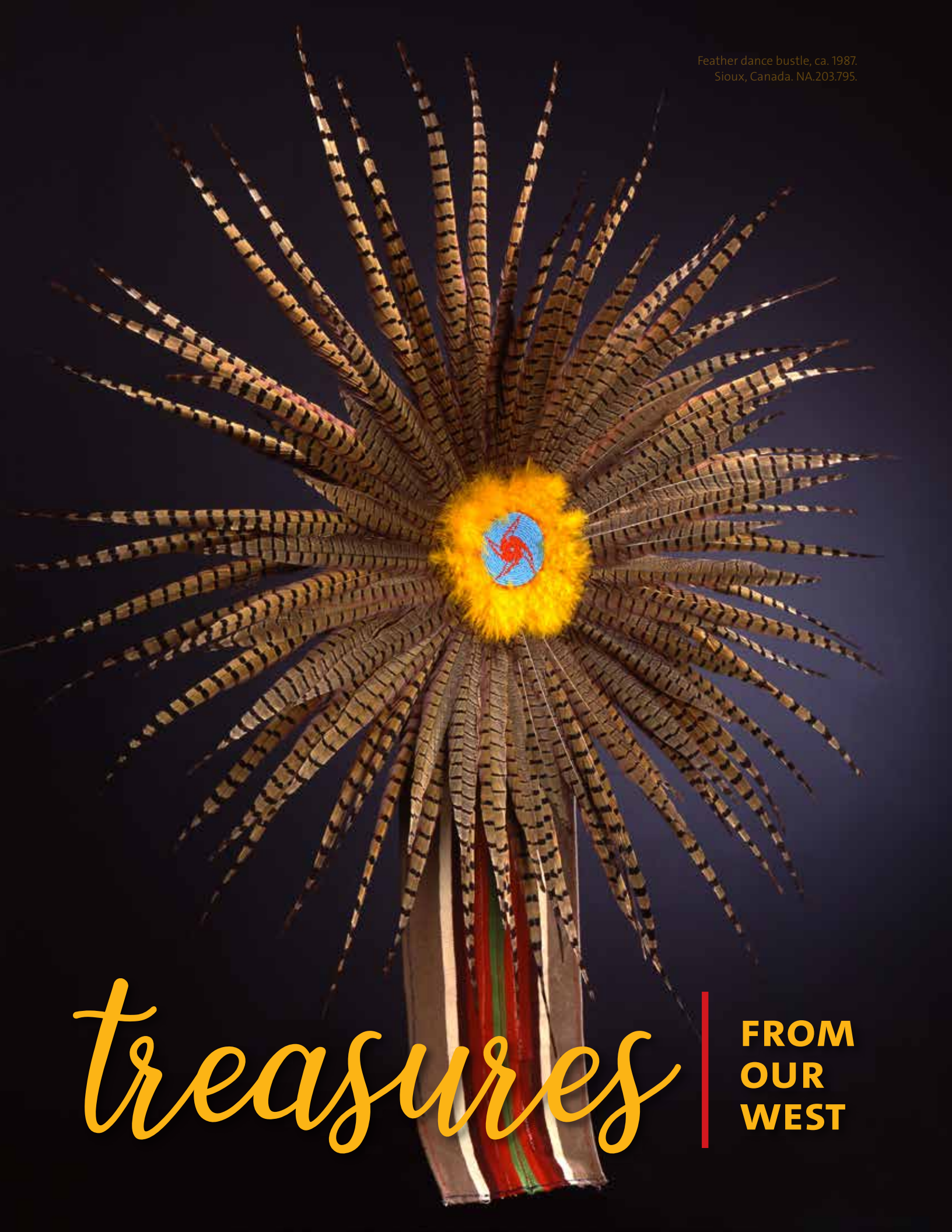


Champion rider and local boy Nick Knight rides at the Cody Stampede, ca. 1935. Grandstands on left. Photo courtesy the Park County Archives. P86-016-12

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Dr. Jeremy Johnston is the Center’s Hal & Naoma Tate Endowed Chair and Curator of Western American History | Ernest J. Goppert Curator of the Buffalo Bill Museum | Managing Editor of the Papers of William F. Cody. Mary Robinson is Housel Director of the Center’s McCracken Research Library.

Feather dance bustle, ca. 1987.
Sioux, Canada. NA.203.795.



treasures

**FROM
OUR
WEST**

Native feather bustle

There's no shortage of bustles at the Center of the West's Plains Indian Museum Powwow, this summer celebrating its 38th year on June 15 – 16. The feather bustle is a traditional part of a Native American man's regalia he wears to dance at powwow. In this case, the bustle has two rings of pheasant tail feathers surrounding a central, beaded rosette encircled with dyed yellow breath feathers. Other bustles might display eagle or hawk feathers.

A typical traditional male dancer wears a single bustle at the waist while a fancy dancer generally wears two bustles, the extra one attached to a harness on his back. The bustle is unique to the dancer, as is his complete regalia ("regal dress") which reflects family heritage, tribal affiliation, spiritual quests, and individual personality. From the materials to the construction to the powwow arbor, the regalia holds special meaning for the wearer.

Share the pageantry of the Plains Indian Museum Powwow, June 15 – 16 at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West! ■



**BUFFALO BILL
MUSEUM**

Colt Navy revolver, .36 caliber. Gift of Florence Jenkins and the Donald Becker Family. 1.69.6284.1

Wild Bill Hickok revolver

James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok's (1837 – 1874) pair of ivory-handled revolvers were as legendary as he was. Three years after Jack McCall shot Hickok in the back as he was playing cards in Deadwood, South Dakota, an 1879 story in the Cheyenne, Wyoming, *Daily Leader* noted that the pistols were made expressly for Hickok. "A bullet from them never missed its mark," the paper said. "Remarkable stories are told of the dead shootist's skills with these guns. He could keep two fruit cans rolling, one in front and one behind him, with bullets fired from these firearms." Contemporaries often said that they could prevail against Hickok in a shooting contest, but he was essentially unbeatable in an actual gunfight due to his calm demeanor and poise.

The Center is fortunate to have one of Hickok's Colt Navy revolvers in its Buffalo Bill Museum collection. It had been sold to help pay for his burial expenses. It was later purchased for a mere twenty-five cents! ■



Ranchmen Protecting Stock from Wolves and A Surprise Party by Frederic Remington, 1894 Winchester calendar. Gift of Olin Corporation, Winchester Collection. 1988.8.2897



**CODY
FIREARMS MUSEUM**

Winchester calendar, 1894

In 1887, Union Metallic Cartridge Company of Bridgeport, Connecticut, introduced an advertising calendar to market its line of ammunition. Not to be outdone by its down-state rival, Winchester Repeating Arms Company in New Haven, Connecticut, also introduced the first Winchester calendar the same year. It was only a matter of time until other firearms manufacturers followed suit.

Firearms-related calendars and posters became very popular with collectors, especially since the manufacturers featured artists such as A.B. Frost, N.C. Wyeth, W.R. Leigh, Lynn Bogue Hunt, Philip Goodwin, Norman Rockwell, and in this case, Frederic Remington (1861 – 1909). Here, three men protect their stock from wolves with their rifles, and two hunters in a canoe come upon a moose. ■



After lunch everyone gathered on the porch to hear District Ranger Dave Hogen share the Forest Service's perspective on cooperative land management between ranchers and government entities.



Pictured here are Stan and Mary Flitner with their friend Elizabeth (right); you may recognize Mary as the author of *My Ranch, Too: A Wyoming Memoir*.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT | *Stan and Mary Flitner*

Stan and Mary Flitner hosted our 2018 Member Day Trip last July. Following a tour of the Diamondtail Ranch, a fifth-generation cattle operation in Greybull, Wyoming, our member group trekked up into the Bighorn Mountains for a chuckwagon meal at the Flitners' summer cow camp.

We hope you'll be able to join us on our next Member Trip—invitations coming soon!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT | *From Atlanta to Cody: Robert W. Woodruff Foundation continues support of the Cody Firearms Museum*

Robert W. Woodruff's lifelong love for the West, and Cody in particular, was sparked by a childhood encounter with Buffalo Bill himself. Charles Wickersham, a friend of Woodruff's father who worked for the Atlanta and West Point Railroad, arranged a special meeting between the two as the Wild West show toured through the southeastern United States. With his trademark charisma, Buffalo Bill regaled the young Robert with colorful tales of the West.

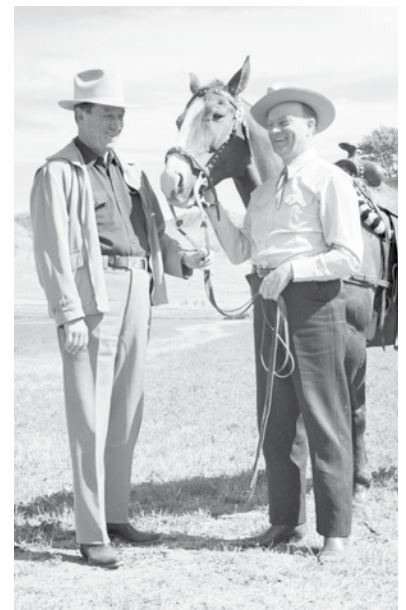
Charles Elliot, Woodruff's friend and author of the biography *Mr. Anonymous: Robert W. Woodruff of Coca-Cola*, wrote, "for a long time afterward, Robert had visions of following in Cody's earlier tracks and becoming a big game guide, where a man had to be tough and competent, and often must depend on his ingenuity and resourcefulness for survival."

Though he pursued a career in business and became the president of Coca-Cola, Woodruff eventually satisfied his love of the western

outdoors on Buffalo Bill's TE Ranch, located about thirty-two miles southwest of Cody on the Southfork of the Shoshone River. He and his wife Miss Nell purchased the ranch in 1941 and owned it for thirty years.

For decades, the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation has been a generous supporter of the Cody Firearms Museum. The Winchester Arms Collection, the heart of the Cody Firearms Museum—plus the initial capital funds to house it—were secured in part through Woodruff's personal friendship with John Olin of the Olin Corporation, Winchester's parent company. In addition to Woodruff's gift of his personal firearms to the collection, the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation endowed the firearms curator position and donated another major gift to the current reinstallation, perpetuating his memory.

Woodruff's generosity may be best known in Atlanta, but it's clear to us that part of his heart will always belong in the West!



Robert W. Woodruff (left) and ventriloquist Edgar Bergen next to horse on TE Ranch, 1950. Jack Richard (1909 – 1992) photo. MS 089 Jack Richard Photograph Collection. PN.89.1.180.04



DONOR IMPACT

The completion of the Cody Firearms Museum reinstallation would not have been possible without the generosity of donors at all levels. The Center received critical support for this project from the following:

- **Granting agencies:** Federal government as well as family and corporate foundations
- **Industry professionals:** Large corporations and small businesses who make and sell firearms, triggers, ammunition, grips, scopes, gunsmithing tools, and accessories
- **Individual enthusiasts:** Hunters, collectors, veterans, conservationists, antiques dealers, auctioneers, old friends, and new fans from across the United States and as far away as Brazil and the Philippines.

Thank you for sharing our vision. We look forward to celebrating the “CFM Reload” with you in July!



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT | *Bill and Carole Wiltse*

Bill and Carole Wiltse aren't Wyoming natives, but after twenty-plus years in the Park County area, it doesn't seem fair to call them anything but locals! Bill's cousin, a local outfitter, set up a series of pack trips in the 1980s. That, plus some visits to the Center, convinced the couple that migrating west from Detroit would be the journey of their lifetimes.

Bill and Carole first became members of the Center in 1989, when, after a trip to the Center Store, they learned that some items in their basket could be purchased at an attractive discount if they joined. Prior to Bill and Carole's move, Carole developed a friendship with a museum store clerk who often called Carole to let her know about great deals or new items, and then shipped the items to Detroit. When Carole retired and moved to Meeteetse, Wyoming, in 1997 (Bill followed three years later.), they found the Center to be a great way to network, connect, and socialize with the members of their new community, and they quickly made many friends by attending Center gatherings and events.

Through the years, Bill and Carole have enjoyed watching the many changes and additions at the Center including special exhibitions like 2016's *Invisible Boundaries*. This project detailed the migratory patterns of ungulates through the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem—the Wiltse's new chosen backyard! In addition to special exhibitions, Bill and Carole appreciate the collections and displays in the Plains Indian Museum, and they are eagerly awaiting the completed reinstallation of the Cody Firearms Museum this July.

Bill and Carole continue to support the Center because their membership level allows them to bring two guests each time they visit, a great benefit for their friends who visit in the summer months.

The Center of the West is pleased to celebrate Bill and Carole, and we are honored to have earned their support the last thirty years. Year over year, the contributions of our thousands of members in the West, and throughout the country help us defray the costs of the Center's greatest needs. It's a privilege to know so many caring and dedicated people like Bill and Carole who share our vision and who maintain their memberships to ensure that we succeed. From the scenic vistas of Park County, Wyoming, and from members in all fifty states, the Center is fortunate to enjoy such a broad backing. ■



Clockwise order: Flag girl, Cody Stampede, 2009. “The red, white, and blue says Fourth of July.” MS 426 Ken Blackbird Collection. Gift of Ken Blackbird. P.426.05377; Cowboy riding saddle bronc at Stampede Rodeo, July 4, 1962. MS 089 Jack Richard Photograph Collection. PN.89.31.5117.02.14; Pictured here is the Cody Stampede Parade, ca. 1920. The parade of the cowboys and cowgirls was a standard feature of the early Stampede. MS 005 Cody Local History Collection. P.5.1492

Upcoming exhibitions

Two upcoming special exhibitions celebrate important anniversaries for Cody and Wyoming, featuring events and people well-known to locals.

This summer, *Whoop It Up! Celebrating 100 Years of the Cody Stampede* opens June 7. *Whoop It Up* is from an old advertisement for the Stampede. Cody has a rodeo every night during the summer, but the Stampede, held July 1–4 each year, is a special event that attracts the top rodeo athletes with the biggest purse in rodeo over the Independence Day holiday. Founded by Cody notable Caroline Lockhart, the Stampede has a storied history and twice has been named “Best Large Outdoor Rodeo of the Year” by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. The famous Stampede Parade celebrates both the rodeo and the Fourth of July; the exhibition has photos and memorabilia from throughout the Stampede’s century-long history.

Next fall, Lindsay Linton Buk, originally from nearby Powell, Wyoming, is the artist behind *Women in Wyoming*, on display from October 25, 2019, through August 2, 2020. Wyoming has declared 2019 the “Year of Wyoming Women,” celebrating the 150th

anniversary of women’s suffrage in Wyoming Territory, the first state or territory to allow women the right to vote. Buk’s exhibition, co-curated with the Center’s Rebecca West, curator of the Plains Indian Museum, and Karen McWhorter, Scarlett Curator of Western American Art, Whitney Western Art Museum, tells stories of Wyoming women through large-scale portrait photographs and podcast interviews. (See page 35 for more about this exhibition.)

Together, these two exhibitions are expected to cost nearly \$100,000. Because they both focus on important subjects of particular interest to those in this area, we hope the Center’s fans, especially those in Wyoming and southern Montana, will want to make gifts in support of the exhibitions.

If you would like to help make *Women in Wyoming* and *Whoop It Up! Celebrating 100 Years of the Cody Stampede* possible, please send your check, made out to the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, with “exhibitions” in the memo line. A donor list of all who contribute \$75 or more will be included in the exhibitions. Or, if you want to simply contribute to an area where your gift is most needed, leave the memo line blank or write “unrestricted.” Thank you for your support!

Final phase of New Century Campaign

This year, 2019, is the fourth and final year of a Center of the West multimillion-dollar fundraising effort. The comprehensive New Century Campaign is raising dollars for capital projects, operating expenses (day-to-day programming and “keeping the lights on”), and our endowment, which the Center invests with a dual goal to both grow in value and provide significant contributions to our annual budget.

Every dollar donated to the Center during the years 2016–2019 is counted toward the campaign’s grand total. Your annual fund contributions, “round up” donations on Museum Store purchases, and even contributions to the Raptor Experience boxes are all included—along with special campaign gifts in the thousands—and in some cases, in the millions of dollars.

Every gift counts! Not everyone can make donations of thousands of dollars, however; but gifts of all sizes are important. Taken together, small gifts have a major impact on the Center’s regular operations, while also making special programs and exhibitions possible. ■

AMERICA'S VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY MAKE CFM HISTORY



CODY FIREARMS MUSEUM *Veteran VIP Experience* JULY 5, 2019

The Cody Firearms Museum (CFM) Veteran VIP Experience extends an exclusive invitation to veterans and active military personnel to be the very first to record their own personal stories as a permanent addition for the CFM's new Military Exhibit. As they do, they share with museum-goers a glimpse into the complexity of their jobs and the magnitude of their bravery.

On July 5, 2019, the day before the CFM re-opens to the public, participating veterans have a first glance at the military history exhibit and are invited to return with their families the following day for the public opening.

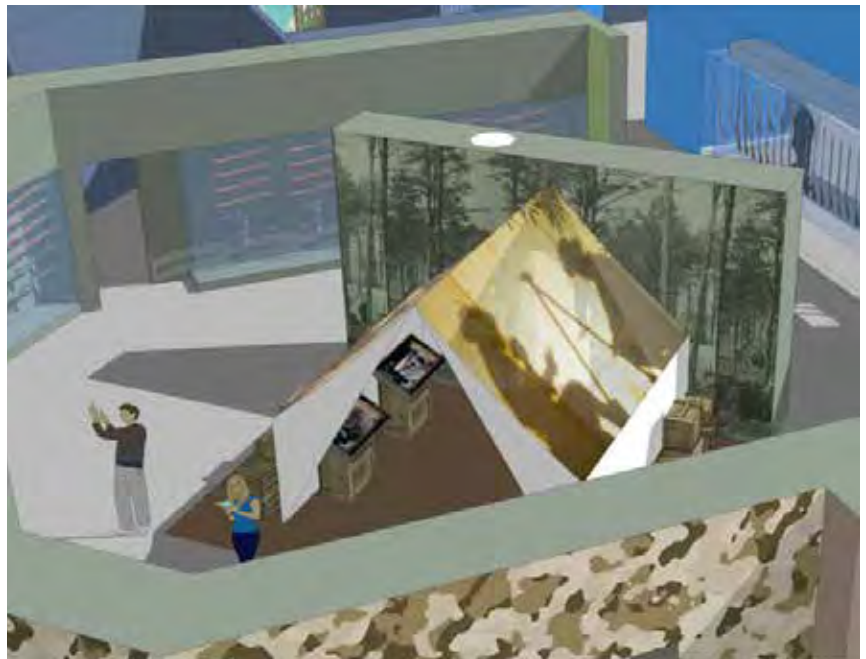
The CFM seeks veterans' organizations to partner with them in promoting and/or sponsoring this special event. The CFM Veteran VIP Experience is exclusive to veterans and active military personnel, and requires an RSVP at centerofthewest.org/event/CFM-Veteran or by calling 307-578-4092. Find out more on the Cody Firearms Museum's Facebook page, @CodyFirearmsMuseum.

**AND DON'T FORGET TO SHARE IN THE
CFM GRAND OPENING, 3 – 6 PM ON JULY 6!**

"We want to offer our veterans a VIP experience while becoming the first to contribute to this recorded legacy," explains Ashley Hlebinsky, the Robert W. Woodruff Curator of the Cody Firearms Museum. "The interactive component is user-friendly and will be on display for our 200,000 annual visitors. We're calling on vets and vet organizations to join us during our grand re-opening, and we thank you for your service."

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **11 AM – 6 PM:** Participants record their experiences in the Military Exhibit.
- **4 – 6 PM:** Participants are invited to join us for a meet-and-greet barbecue and drinks.
- **6 PM:** We're off to the Cody Rodeo! Participants must request tickets, free to veterans, courtesy of Cody Nite Rodeo.



bits & bytes

News, Activities, & Events

CALENDAR OF EVENTS | MAY – OCTOBER

CENTER HOURS

- Through SEP 15: 8 AM–6 PM daily
- SEP 16 – OCT 31: 8 AM–5 PM daily

SPECIAL EVENTS

Dinner and Movie: *The Great Gatsby* MAY 17

A roaring '20s evening at the Center of the West starting at 6 p.m. Cocktail hour with live piano music featuring Shaun Balch on the Grand Steinway (made possible by a generous donation from the Cody Community Concert Association), dinner, and a screening of the 1974 movie adaptation of the *Great Gatsby* starring Robert Redford and Mia Farrow.

- Tickets: \$40 each



38th Annual Plains Indian Museum Powwow, JUN 15–16

Grand entries noon and 6 PM Saturday, and noon Sunday. Competitive dance, Native arts vendors, Indian tacos and fry bread. \$10 adults; \$6 youth; 6 and younger free; participating dancers, drums, and their families free.

Grand Opening of the New Cody Firearms Museum, JUL 6

After a long-anticipated and full-scale renovation, our Cody Firearms Museum celebrates its Grand Opening at 3PM July 6. Admission is free beginning at 3 PM that day.

43rd Annual Patrons Ball, SEP 21

6 PM. Our annual black-tie fundraising gala and the finale to Cody's Rendezvous Royale week. Learn more at centerofthewest.org/event/patrons-ball.

SUMMER INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

Draper Museum Raptor Experience

- Through MAY 31: *Relaxing with Raptors*
 - 1–1:30 PM daily
- JUN 1–AUG 15: Two programs daily:
 - 11–11:30 a.m. *Superheroes of Nature*
 - 4–4:30 p.m. *Relaxing with Raptors*
- AUG 16–SEP 15: *Relaxing with Raptors*
 - 10–10:30 AM and 3–3:30 PM
- After SEP 16: *Relaxing with Raptors*
 - 1–1:30 PM daily

Chuckwagon cooking demonstrations— and samples!

- JUN 1–AUG 31: On the Center's front lawn, MON–SAT, 9:30 AM–3:30 PM

Guided Tours

- JUN 1 – SEP 13, daily (no tours JUL 4, SEP 2, SEP 8)
 - *Wildlife in the West*, 10:30 AM
 - *People of the West*, 1 PM
 - Subject TBD, 2:30 PM

Artists-in-Residence

- JUL 9–13: Tony Foster, Whitney Western Art Museum
- JUL 22–26: Robert Martinez, Plains Indian Museum

- JUL 28–AUG 3: John Hitchcock, Plains Indian Museum

WORKSHOPS, FIELD TRIPS, AND DAY CAMPS

Made possible through a generous grant from the R. Harold Burton Foundation. Register in advance; information at centerofthewest.org/learn/family-programs. Scholarships may be available: emilyb@centerofthewest.org or 307-578-4110.

- JUN 7: *Hiking into the Sunlight*, ages 8–15, 9 AM–3 PM. A kids' day hike in the Absaroka Mountains to explore geology and flowering plants. \$10/member, \$15/non-member.
- JUN 10–12: *Picturing Nature*, ages 11–15, 8:30 AM–2:30 PM each day. Develop photography, painting, and writing skills with nature as you work with experienced nature photographers and gifted artists. \$50/member, \$60/non-member.
- JUN 19, June 26, and/or July 3: *Sensory Hike*, ages 4–5, 9–10:30 AM. Attend any or all three sessions. Explore nature using all senses at the Paul Stock Nature Trail. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Per session: \$5/member, \$10/non-member.
- JUN 20–21: *Birds and Butterflies*, ages 5–7, 9–11 AM. Welcome the summer solstice by exploring the lives of winged creatures. \$15/member, \$20/non-member.
- JUN 25: *North Fork Rafting Adventure*, ages 11–15, 8:30 AM–2:30 PM. Raft the Shoshone River with Wyoming River Trips and maybe—just maybe—see moose, otters, bears, and more. Lunch provided. \$45/member, \$50/non-member.
- JUL 9–12: *MuseSTEM Camp*, ages 8–11, 9 AM–noon. Engage in hands-on, minds-

on challenges with summertime Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. \$35/member, \$40/non-member.

- **JUL 15–19:** *Colorful Creations*, ages 6–9 (9–10:30 AM each day), ages 10–12 (1–3 PM each day). Unleash your creative mind as instructor Sarah Shearer leads numerous projects using a variety of media. \$35/member, \$40/non-member.
- **JUL 22, 24, 26:** *Little Aspiring Artists*, ages 4–5, 9–10:30 AM. A preschool class designed to engage and inspire young minds with art and active play. \$25/member, \$30/non-member.



- **JUL 23–25:** *Butterfly Bonanza*, ages 11–15, 8:30 AM drop off JUL 23 and 4 PM pick up JUL 25. A three-day, two-night science adventure in the Big Horn Mountains, camping at Ten Sleep Preserve. Led by Draper Museum scientists, study butterflies, learn about ecology and protect critical habitat. Bring a sleeping bag and a day pack. \$85/member, \$95/non-member.
- **AUG 14:** *Who Dunnit? Crime Science Investigations*, ages 11–15, 9 AM–2:30 PM. Solve a true crime case using forensic science in ballistics and firearm recognition with the assistance of the new science center in the Cody Firearms Museum, and the guidance of a forensic scientist. Practice additional forensic techniques such as fingerprint and handwriting analysis. \$20/member, \$25/non-member.
- **AUG 20–21:** *Horsin' Around*, ages 8–10, 9 AM–3 PM. An end-of-summer adventure of horseback riding and fly fishing. \$85/member, \$95/non-member.

LUNCHTIME LECTURES AND EVENING TALKS

Lunchtime Expeditions and Draper After Dark talks organized and hosted by the Draper Natural History Museum; supported in part by Sage Creek Ranch and the Nancy-Carroll Draper Foundation.

- **JUN 6, 12:15 PM:** *Some Interesting Plants of the Ancient People of the Yellowstone* by John Mionczynski. Draper Lunchtime Expedition.
- **JUN 14, 4 PM:** Michael Wallis, topic TBD. McCracken Research Library Talk.
- **JUN 19, Noon:** *General Custer, Libbie Custer, and Their Dogs* by Brian Patrick Duggan. McCracken Research Library Talk.
- **JUN 19, 5:15 PM:** *How Fast Did Dinosaurs Grow Up?* By Michael D'Emic. Draper After Dark Talk.
- **JUL 11, 12:15 PM:** *Anatomy of Old Faithful and Upper Geyser Basin and Its Ties to the Yellowstone Magma Reservoir* by Robert B. Smith. Draper Lunchtime Expedition.
- **JUL 18, 5:15 PM:** Anthony Caragiulo, American Museum of Natural History. Draper After Dark Talk.
- **AUG 1, 12:15 PM:** *Fifty Years of Studying Golden Eagles: What Have We Learned?* by Mike Kochert. Draper Lunchtime Expedition.
- **AUG 22, 5:15 PM:** *The First People and Last Mammoths in Wyoming* by Todd Surovell. Draper After Dark Talk.
- **SEP 5, 12:15 PM:** *Theodore Roosevelt, the Unscrupulous Concessioner, and the Insane Adversary* by Jeremy Johnston. Draper Lunchtime Expedition.
- **OCT 3, 12:15 PM:** *Wolf Populations in Yellowstone National Park* by Doug Smith. Draper Lunchtime Expedition.

MEMBERSHIP EVENTS

Spring Buffalo Gals Luncheon MAY 22, 11:45 a.m.

Join us for a delicious lunch and a program by photographer Lindsay Linton Buk, who discusses her *Women in Wyoming* project, the subject of a special exhibition opening at the Center October 25, 2019.

- \$25 for members; \$35 for non-members.
- Reservation encouraged: membership@centerofthewest.org or 307-578-4008.

Business Friend Days JUN 1–2, 8 a.m.–6 p.m.

A weekend of appreciation for our Business Members, whose employees and families enjoy free admission to the Center.

Members Openings

Center of the West members enjoy an evening reception celebrating the opening of these special exhibitions. Watch our website for further details.

- **JUN 7:** *Whoop It Up! Celebrating 100 Years of the Cody Stampede*.
- **OCT 25:** *Women in Wyoming: Portraits & Interviews of Women Who Shape the West*

Coffee & Curators

Members gather for coffee, refreshments, and a curator's talk inspired by the Center's collections—and special up-close or behind-the-scenes access. Select Saturdays, 10–11:30 a.m. Space limited, so reserve in advance at membership@centerofthewest.org or 307-578-4008.

- **AUG 3:** Buffalo Bill Museum
- **SEP 7:** Whitney Western Art Museum
- **OCT 5:** Plains Indian Museum
- **NOV 2:** McCracken Research Library

Fall Buffalo Gals Luncheon OCT 25, 11:45 a.m.

Join us for a delicious lunch and a program by Affie Ellis, one of the women featured in the exhibition *Women in Wyoming*, opening the same day.

- \$25 for members; \$35 for non-members.
- Reservation encouraged: 307-578-4008 or membership@centerofthewest.org.

CODY FIREARMS RECORDS OFFICE SPECIAL HOURS

Regular office hours:

MON–THU 9 AM–4 PM, FRI 9 AM–3 PM

- **MAY 17–19:** Attending Colorado Gun Collectors Show in Denver, Colorado
- **JUN 8:** Office open for National Gun Day
- **JUL 12–14:** Attending Winchester Arms Collectors Show in Cody, Wyoming
- **SEP 14–15:** Attending Ohio Gun Collectors Show in Wilmington, Ohio
- **OCT 18–20:** Attending Texas Gun Collectors Show in Denton, Texas

Stay abreast of all the Center's activities at centerofthewest.org/calendar. ■

Pointing West, continued from page two

Looking into more recent events, we face the challenge of separating out hyperbole and opinion to drill down into the core content of a topic. For modern history, it is like trying to see the shape of a bear when all you have is a hypersensitive microscope. You can count the number of hairs but perhaps miss the overall teeth and claws.

I am so proud of our exhibition team who worked on the CFM reinstallation project. They had to use both the foggy telescope and the hypersensitive microscope to tell the story of firearms—a complex heritage to be sure and one that needs to be highly nuanced. In the end, we'll know whether or not we got it right by the feedback we receive from our visitors. After all, they are the important ones in this saga!

So, as you read this issue of *Points West*, I hope it inspires you to make your way to Cody this year and view the wonderful new Cody Firearms Museum.

Hassrick wins Western Writers award



Peter H. Hassrick, Director Emeritus and Senior Scholar at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, has won a Western Writers of America (WWA) Spur Award in the Best Western Short Nonfiction

category for 2019. The honored article, "Art, Agency, and Conservation: A Fresh Look at Albert Bierstadt's Vision of the West," was published in the Montana Historical Society's *Montana the Magazine of Western History*.

The article grew from Hassrick's scholarship for the Center of the West's 2018 special exhibition, *Albert Bierstadt:*

Witness to a Changing West, that addressed Bierstadt in the context of his treatment not just of majestic mountains and lakes for which he's more famously known, but more prominently of bison and American Indians.

The WWA Spur Awards have been awarded annually since 1953 and honor the best in western fiction, nonfiction, poetry, song, and film scripting. The list of winners each year includes the most distinguished western authors in America.

Hassrick is a writer and independent American art scholar who focuses on the West. In 1976, he became the Center's Executive Director, a post he held for some twenty years; he currently serves as the Center's Director Emeritus and Senior Scholar.

centerofthewest.org/hassrick



Perkins receives conservation award

Center of the West Chief Conservator, Beverly Perkins, has been named a recipient of the Sheldon & Caroline Keck Award from the American Institute for Conservation (AIC). Chosen by peers, the

award recognizes a sustained record of excellence in the education and training of conservation professionals.

As conservator, Perkins examines, documents, treats, and performs preventive care for the Center's collections, and helps protect them while on exhibit, in storage, in transit, and on loan. In addition to that work, she also leads a robust conservation internship program at the Center.

The American Institute for Conservation is the leading membership association for current and aspiring conservators and allied professionals who preserve cultural heritage.

centerofthewest.org/conservation

Center receives high rating from Charity Navigator

Because of the Center of the West's strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency, Charity Navigator recently awarded the Center its coveted 4-star rating. This is the sixth consecutive time that the Center has earned the organization's top distinction. The rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator, works to assure supporters that their donations to the museum are used in accordance with their wishes.

Since 2002, using objective analysis, Charity Navigator has awarded only the most fiscally responsible organizations a 4-star rating. In 2011, it added measures of governance, ethical practices, and openness to its methodology.

The Center's rating and other



information about charitable giving are available free of charge at charitynavigator.org.

centerofthewest.org/tag/charity-navigator

Center hosts *Women in Wyoming* exhibition

Women in Wyoming—an exhibition by photographer, artist, and Powell, Wyoming, native Lindsay Linton Buk—makes its debut in the Center's John Bunker Sands Photography Gallery on October 25, 2019.

A fifth general Wyomingite, Buk created *Women in Wyoming* to tell the stories of and celebrate the achievements, power, and learned wisdom of contemporary Wyoming women through art and media.

For *Women in Wyoming*, Buk, an editorial and commercial photographer by trade, traveled more than 15,000 miles, developed 600 rolls of medium-format film, recorded 3,000 minutes of audio interview footage, and met with amazing women throughout Wyoming. Buk's project coincides with the 150th anniversary of women's suffrage in Wyoming in 2019 and the 100th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment in 2020, which gave all women in America the right to vote. The exhibition remains on view through August 2, 2020.

centerofthewest.org/tag/lindsay-linton-buk

38th Annual Plains Indian Museum Powwow

On June 15 – 16, dancers, drum groups, and artists from Northern Plains tribes gather to celebrate and share their vibrant culture at the Plains Indian Museum Powwow, the Center of the West's longest running public program. Grand entries begin at noon each day with an additional performance at 6 p.m.



on June 15; gates open at 9:30 a.m. both days. Admission, good for one day only, is \$10 for adults (age 18+), \$5 for youths (ages 7 – 17), and children 6 and under are admitted free of charge. Center members receive \$1 off admission each day.

Men, women, teens, and children dancers compete for more than \$25,000 in prizes. The popular Learning Tipi invites families to discover the traditions of powwow. Visitors can also shop for authentic Indian jewelry, beadwork, quillwork, clothing, basketry, pottery, paintings, sculpture, at the forty-plus vendor booths as they enjoy fry bread and Indian tacos, as well as food and beverage concessions.

centerofthewest.org/powwow

British artist to serve as artist-in-residence

British artist-explorer Tony Foster serves as Center of the West Artist-in-Residence, July 9 – 17, 2019, in the Whitney Western Art Museum. Foster shares daily insights with museum visitors explaining his approach and process as he completes

paintings from his time spent on the Green River in Utah, a series of paintings that reflect not only the river as it exists today, but also reveal the river as a repository of fifty million-year-old fossils.

Since 1982, Foster has created several series of watercolor "journeys" in the world's great wildernesses. Along with the paintings, each journey has associated notes and symbolic objects or souvenirs to reveal wild places or explore a specific idea or theme which can have a geographic focus or be global in scope. Each journey includes multiple expeditions and can take years to complete.



Tony Foster in his studio in Cornwall, UK, 2014. Photo by Chris Chapman.

centerofthewest.org/calendar

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CFM BOOK | The Cody Firearms Museum holds what has been called one of the finest collections of firearms in the world. This book shares only a fraction of the many firearms found in the museum. Soft cover, 79 pages. #1032876 | **\$12.95**

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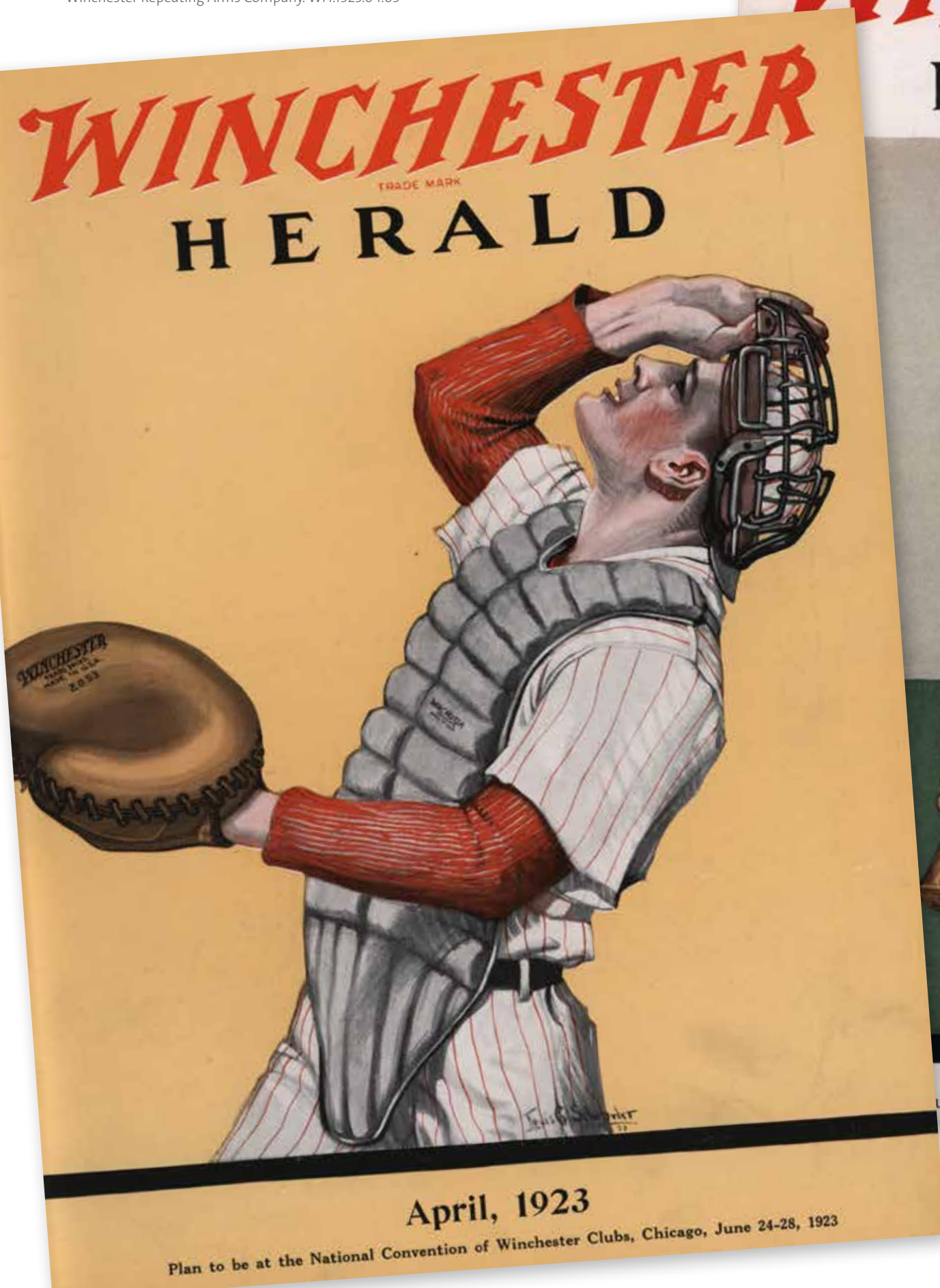
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RIGHT: *Winchester Herald*, Vol. 5, No. 3, April 1924. Published by the Winchester Repeating Arms Company. WH.1924.05.03 **BELOW:** *Winchester Herald*, Vol. 4, No. 3, April 1923. Published by the Winchester Repeating Arms Company. WH.1923.04.03





1000 words

Winchester and the boys of summer

A Winchester bat? A Winchester mitt? With baseball season well underway, how curious to spot America's national pastime sporting the name of a rifle? It's true.

"In 1919, attempting to recover from loans taken out to expand for wartime production, Winchester used the sources the factories possessed to produce consumer goods," reports Kirsten Arnold in her Center of the West blog post dated December 16, 2018. "Merging with Simmons Hardware Co. and transforming a number of stores throughout the country to Winchester Stores, the firearms company began providing everything from fishing poles to footballs."

One of the company's marketing tools was its *Winchester Herald* publication which got the word out about their non-traditional Winchester products. *Herald* covers displayed everything from chisels, electric irons, lawn mowers, padlocks, hammers, carpenters' planes, and wrenches to the baseball equipment shown here—each one "as good as the gun."

As Arnold put it, "Whatever it was, customers didn't need Sears, or Montgomery Ward; they could find it all under one name, Winchester."

After years in Washington, D.C., Kirsten Arnold escaped D.C. traffic and moved back home to Wyoming where she enjoys the mountains and open spaces. She holds a Master of Arts in Military Studies, Naval Warfare and is currently assisting the McCracken Library with the Winchester Manuscript Collections.



**MCCRACKEN
RESEARCH LIBRARY**

One picture is worth a thousand words

The McCracken Research Library at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West offers access to thousands of historic images, maps, and other documents for research and publication, thanks in part to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). To learn more, contact the library at 307-578-4063, or visit library.centerofthewest.org.

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